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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

25X1A

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

CD NO. 447

DATE DISTR. 9 Nov. 1951

NO. OF PAGES 2

COUNTRY Bulgaria

SUBJECT The Bukhovo Uranium Mines

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PLACE
ACQUIRED [REDACTED]

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(LISTED BELOW)DATE OF
INFO. [REDACTED]

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

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1. No. 8 and No. 10 mines are located two kilometers north of Bukhovo in the Kodzha mountains. The mines are approximately 400 meters apart and are connected by a tunnel three to four kilometers long.
2. The ore extracted from No. 8 and No. 10 mines is transported by small rail cars of a capacity of one ton through the mine shafts to the mine entrance. Wood chutes, approximately 165 meters long, extend from the mine entrances to a loading ramp where the ore is loaded directly onto trucks.
3. The ore extracted from both mines is yellow in color and appears to contain blue spots. The ore is transported by the trucks to an ore refinery located approximately 200 to 300 meters east of Bukhovo.
4. A special instrument was used by the engineers employed at the mines to detect ore veins. The instrument was moved along the walls of the mine shafts daily, and whenever the indicator was stimulated, the engineers marked that particular point of the shaft for further excavation.
5. Both of the above-mentioned mines were administered and controlled by Soviet nationals. In addition, there were four Soviet mining engineers who inspected the mines daily. Each mine employed approximately 200 Trudovaks and 50 to 60 civilian laborers during each eight hour shift, three shifts per day. Most of the civilian laborers were from the Kyustendil, Marek, and Sveti Vrach districts. Approximately 50 out of the total number of laborers employed in the mines were of Turkish extraction.
6. The entrances to both mines and the entire mine area are under continuous Militia control. There are two Militia guard posts located approximately one kilometer out of Bukhovo on the road leading to the mines. All civilian and military personnel travelling on this road must submit to rigid document control and search. All civilian laborers employed at the mines, and chauffeurs transporting ore from the mines to the ore refinery, are issued special identity documents which have to be presented at mine entrances both on arrival and departure.

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7. Officially, no individuals of Turkish extraction who have worked at the mines are allowed to emigrate from Bulgaria.

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